815.

OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE, BANGALORE.

Circular No. C. 2677—29-30, *dated* 12*th March* 1930.

The Village Panchayet Scheme has now been in operation for three years and the response from the people has been encouraging. No doubt there is still considerable apathy and ignorance to be gradually overcome. The successful working of the scheme in areas where satisfactory results have already been produced, will be very largely helpful both in consolidating the work and overcoming the prejudice and apathy of the rest.

The potentiality of the scheme will be evident when a collective view of the position is taken for the State as a whole. A few years back there was neither any organization nor funds solely devoted for Rural Reconstruction Work. To-day there is an organisation in almost every village either by itself or as a part of a group of villages, with statutory powers extending to nearly all activities in the area, a cash balance in the Government Treasuries of over 20 lakhs, and an assured annual income of about 16 lakhs and an annual contribution in the shape of labour, which ought, at the lowest, computation, to be equivalent to the amount derived by the Village Panchayets from the taxes assigned to or imposed by them.

That the Village Panchayet scheme has a very large part to play in the future development of the country, is no longer open to doubt and special measures have to be adopted through the State to enable the rural population in the remotest parts the State to obtain the full benefits of the Scheme. Progress in Rural Reconstruction work has been remarkable in areas which have been fortunate in securing capable and selfless workers. The opprtunity is very great and the success is largely dependent upon the proper working of the Scheme during the next three or four years. This period therefore calls forth very careful guidance and direction, keeping always the main objective clearly in view. It is also necessary to enlist the help of every public-spirited citizen and organisation interested in rural welfare, so that there may be a general awakening to the importance of the work and a band of workers to stimulate and assist the rural population.

The success of the scheme can only be considered as assured if it is based upon a progressive and willing co-operation of the people. This can be increasingly secured as they actually enjoy the benefits of works of utility carried out through their agency and with their funds.

But the area of operation is very wide, the number of units very large and the conditions therein not uniform but considerably varying. Further, it is not possible to arrange for effective guidance and supervision for all the villages simultaneously. The majority of villages having very limited resources, special attention may, with advantage, be concentrated on the larger villages at the beginning. There is also the important point to be borne in mind that one successful village will serve as a great stimulus to the other wavering villages in the neighbourhood.

It will be seen from the Census reports that out of over 16,000 populated villages, only 2,137 have a population of 500 and above. Selection of villages for concentrated work will have to be made out of these 2,137 villages and care should be taken only to select villages where conditions are particularly favourable. About 1,000 villages may immediately be found where the conditions are satisfactory. This will roughly work out at about three villages per Hobli. This may not be a large number per Hobli to start with and may easily be attended to by Revenue Inspector.

It is very important to note that there should be no frittering away of resources-cash or labour. All work done should as far as possible be of permanent benefit to the place. The work done each year, though it may be complete by itself, should form part of a comprehensive programme.

Bearing these points in view, the Village Panchayets should be instructed to settle programmes of works required to be undertaken for improving the comforts, conveniences, resources and amenities of each such village as a whole, which should be first catalogued with an approximate estimate of cost and those most advantageous and necessary undertaken for execution in the order of urgency and due provision should be made for annual maintenance whenever necessary. The selection of work will necessarily be limited to the resources of the village. A five year programme may be settled and the quantum of work to be taken up each year also decided.

While framing the programmes, the Village Panchayets should duly consider the advice, if any, given by Heads of Departments, Deputy Commissioners of Districts and Officers of the Public Health and Engineering Departments during their visits to villages.

In executing the work, only local labour should as far as possible be employed so that the scheme may be a means of providing employment for the people and the amount spent circulated in the village itself.

The Village Panchayets may also determine in accordance with rules or special orders by what agency each work included in the programme should be executed.

A fair provision should be made for demonstration work, say in cases where new seeds, or implements, crops, etc., are recommended to be adopted. A successful demonstration on the field will have for greater educative value than any other method. Similarly, some provision should be made for educational purposes.

As this work should be done with great care, after ascertaining the local needs in each case, the services of the Village Panchayet Inspectors who are expected to possess necessary technical qualification should be made available to help the Village Panchayets in preparing the programmes and estimates for works. Every effort, should be made to have these works settled and proper estimates prepared before the close of the current year and work briskly started from the commencement of the Official year. The accumulated savings at the credit of several Village Panchayets will come in very useful in this connection and the programme for next year may be taken up to the limit of savings plus next year's income less funds required for reserve, maintenance and other necessary charges.

In respect of villages where funds are not sufficient for any useful work, it would be a better policy to accumulate receipts than to fritter away the small resources. These villages may be given the benefit of special grants in a larger measure where the work rendered is of great urgency.

If the work is steadily carried on as suggested above for five years avoiding all wastages as far as possible, it means the execution of work during that period costing over a crore throughout the State and this is certain to effect materials change in rural life. As the work should be got done by the Village Panchayets themselves as far as possible with local labour, it will go a long way to create a fair sense of responsibility, self-reliance, hope and faith in the people. Once those feelings are created, future progress is assured.

The Deputy Commissioners are therefore requested to give as much personal attention as possible to this all important work, as everything largely depends upon careful direction in the early stages.

It is not to be understood that by requiring some three village Panchayets to be selected in each Hobli for special attention, the others should receive no attention. The idea is that intensive work should be started immediately wherever the conditions are favourable as the Village Panchayets serve large masses of the population. In the case of other Panchayets, every effort should be made to see that they meet regularly, are trained in methods of communal work and to keep their villages clean and use their resources to the best advantage.

A report may be submitted at the end of June next on the progress of work done in accordance with the above suggestions.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Revenue Commissioner.

HASSAN DISTRICT.

Notification No. C. 579 26, dated 6—12th March 1930.

Under section 17 of the V. P. Regulation, it is notified for general information that the following gentlemen are nominated as chairmen of the respective Village Panchayets noted against each during the term of the present constitution :—

ARKALGUD TALUK.

Name of Village Panchayet.	*Names of Chairmen.*
1. Jodi Vaddarahalli	Mr. Ananthaiya
2. Jodi Koti	,, Patel Basavegowda
3, Tharagalale (Sarvamanya)	,, Patel Maregowda
4. Jodi Devarahally	,, Patel Puttaswamigowda
5. Madihally	,, Patel Basavalingaiya

BELUR TALUK.

1 Mandalamane	Mr. Alappasetty

S. ABDUL WAJID,
Deputy Commissioner.

SHIMOGA DISTRICT.

Notification No. C. 436—L. B. 28-29, dated 10th March 1930.

It is hereby notified for the information of the public that a Shandy is proposed to be held at Umblebyle, Shimoga Taluk on every Friday. Persons who have any objection for the proposed Shandy may in writing, prefer their objections to the President, District Board, Shimoga, within a month from the date of the publication of this Notification in the Gazette objections received thereafter, will not be entertained or considered.

C. SUBBA RAO,
President, District Board.